

Chemical Demilitarization Citizens' Advisory Commission Chemical Destruction Community Advisory Board 105 5th Street, Suite 206 Richmond, KY 40475 859.624.4700 / 859.986.7565



Reagan Taylor Craig Williams Co-Chairs

Doug Hindman Chair

Kentucky Chemical Demilitarization Citizens' Advisory Commission (CAC) and Chemical Destruction Community Advisory Board (CDCAB) Meeting Summary of Action Items and Discussions June 13, 2018 Eastern Kentucky University (EKU) Richmond, Kentucky

Attendees

CAC: Doug Hindman, Mark Klaas (for Michael Dossett), Harry Moberly, George Ridings, Aaron Thompson, April Webb (for Jon Maybriar) and Craig Williams

CDCAB: Robert Blythe, Jeff Brubaker, Michael Bryant, Tatum Dale (for U.S. Rep. Andy Barr's office), Joe Elliott (for Col. Norbert Fochs), Col. Scott Gould, Diane Hatchett, Doug Hindman, Ron Hink, Leslie Kaylor, Mark Klaas (for Michael Dossett), Bryan Makinen, Harry Moberly, George Ridings, Mica Sims (for U.S. Sen. Rand Paul's office), Reagan Taylor, Aaron Thompson, April Webb (for Jon Maybriar) and Craig Williams

Media Attendees:

The Richmond Register: Kelly McKinney *WKYT-TV*: Emilie Arroyo

Meeting Synopsis

The meeting provided information on the following:

- Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP) Update
- Process Working Group (PWG) Update
- Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection (KDEP) Permitting Updates

Meeting Summary Structure

This meeting summary is not intended to be a verbatim record of conversations; instead, it will provide an overview of the discussions and action items of government

representatives and various members of the CAC and CDCAB. Key action items identified in the meeting and a synopsis of the major questions and comments discussed during the various updates are noted below. Copies of slides and handouts presented during the meeting can be obtained from the Blue Grass Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office (ORO) at (859) 626-8944 or bgoutreach@iem.com.

Action Items

Action Item: Provide information on how BGCAPP classifies workforce minority status.

Responsible Entity: Ron Hink, BPBG project manager.

Timeline: By Sept. 12, 2018.

Action Item: Provide list of materials that will be used in testing the Metal Parts Treater

(MPT) and its off-gas treatment system.

Responsible Entity: Jeff Brubaker, BGCAPP site project manager.

Timeline: By Sept. 12, 2018.

Action Item: Establish process for disseminating PWG information to CAC/CDCAB

members.

Responsible Entity: Doug Hindman, CAC chair, and Craig Williams, CDCAB co-chair.

Timeline: By Sept. 12, 2018.

Outline of Key Issues and Discussions

Welcome and Introductions – Sarah Parke, Manager, ORO

Parke welcomed the attendees, reviewed the meeting agenda and noted there were no action items from the March 14, 2018, CAC/CDCAB meeting.

Opening Remarks – Reagan Taylor and Craig Williams, Co-Chairs, CDCAB

Hindman said he was glad to see everyone and noted a new caterer for the meeting.

Taylor welcomed attendees and said he was glad to be there and was looking forward to the update.

Williams said Jeanne Hibberd and Darcy Maupin, CDCAB members, were unable to attend the meeting. He welcomed Col. James Reckard III, director, U.S. Army Chemical Materials Activity, who was in town for the Blue Grass Chemical Activity (BGCA) change of command. Williams said he considers the outgoing Col. Scott Gould a superior leader and probably the most involved in dealing with the CDCAB, and thanked him for that. He then welcomed Dr. Diane Hatchett, superintendent, Berea Community Schools, and new CDCAB member.

Key Updates

BGCAPP Project Update – Jeff Brubaker, Site Project Manager (SPM), BGCAPP, and Ron Hink, Project Manager, Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass (BPBG)

Slides of this presentation may be obtained by contacting the ORO at (859) 626-8944 or bgoutreach@iem.com.

Brubaker reviewed the new Program Executive Office, Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives mission and vision statements and noted the goal of focusing the workforce on the efficient and safe destruction of the chemical weapons stockpile by 2023. Hink provided a safety update and said he was focused on how to manage the influx of new people with the project's safety culture. He noted a slight increase to the recordableinjury rate but said it was still a very good rate. Hink reported the project has gone almost four years and almost 10 million hours without a lost-time injury. Brubaker reported on main plant progress, including plant system demonstrations and turning systems over to operations, including the Demineralized and Process Water Systems. He said the Munitions Washout System has changed over from 155mm test projectiles to 8inch, after successfully completing 155mm testing. He also noted the start of testing for some robotic systems in the plant and the team is preparing for the MPT system demonstration later this summer along with its supporting off-gas treatment system. Brubaker then reviewed the BGCAPP Roadmap, highlighting progress made with the Static Detonation Chamber (SDC) and its expected start-up next summer, and the main plant's timeline for starting later next year. Hink discussed the plant's recent permitting activities, including the June 5 public meeting for three Class 3 permit modifications and said the comment period on those modifications ends July 2. Brubaker thanked Col. Scott Gould, commander, BGCA, for BGCA support of the GB sampling operation that successfully concluded the week of June 4. He gave a brief overview of the operation and said the agent samples will soon be transferred to a certified laboratory to create hydrolysate, which will be transported to BGCAPP for testing purposes. Hink provided an update on the economic impact of the project, noted staffing is at 910 out of approximately 1,200 employees and communicated the hiring process may now require recruiting additional talent from outside of Kentucky. Brubaker provided an update on the Explosive Destruction Technology (EDT) project, noting as of May construction was essentially complete with some minor mechanical and electrical punch-list items outstanding, and said it has been turned over to start-up and systemization personnel. In May, workers started the air filtration system and are testing the air monitoring equipment and working on developing standard operating procedures. Brubaker gave a Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant update, noting agent destruction operations resumed as of June 12 and that baseline reconfiguration of 4.2-inch mortar rounds began in April and is continuing. Additionally, Brubaker noted the recent discussion to install and use SDCs to treat problematic rounds in Colorado and a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis for that change is underway.

Aaron Thompson asked how the project defines the "minority" workforce population for reporting purposes. Hink said he will provide that information at a later date.

Williams asked what materials will be used in the calibration process of the MPT and its off-gas treatment system and when the list of materials could be reviewed. Brubaker said water, ethylene glycol and surrogate agent will be used and the materials used for testing will vary at different steps of the calibration process and during surrogate testing. Dale Burton, Blue Grass Army Section, KDEP, said a list of the materials was available in the recently reviewed surrogate testing plan. Brubaker will provide the information to Williams.

Williams inquired if the SDCs being considered for use in Pueblo are the same as the SDC in Blue Grass. Brubaker noted they are the same model, including the larger thermal oxidizer.

Williams asked Hink if there are specific areas of expertise for open positions that are proving difficult to fill locally. Hink noted it has been difficult filling the more technical positions due to the specific job skills required.

PWG Update – Jeff Brubaker, SPM, BGCAPP, and Craig Williams, Co-Chair, CDCAB

Slides of this presentation may be obtained by contacting the ORO at (859) 626-8944 or bgoutreach@iem.com.

Williams provided a brief overview of the formation of the PWG and said the recent meetings have been focused on establishing criteria for the off-site shipment of hydrolysate should the supercritical water oxidation (SCWO) process not work as intended. He noted the CAC/CDCAB position is to limit the shipment of waste with an emphasis on waste derived from agent and/or explosive materials from the chemical weapons. Williams said if shipment is necessary, the CAC/CDCAB is prepared to work with reception communities to explain the reasons for shipment to their communities. He emphasized the importance to keep plant operations moving, once started, to eliminate chemical agent and continue to minimize risk. Additionally, he noted the CAC/CDCAB is confident SCWO will work but recognizes the need to have a Plan B. Brubaker provided an update on the recent work of the PWG and said part of these meetings has involved drafting introductory language and criteria that will be applicable to any decision to ship hydrolysate off site in the future. Brubaker noted the complexity of the SCWO process and other process equipment in the SCWO Processing Building and recognized the possibility of outages and the filling of tanks as criteria for shipping agent hydrolysate or energetics hydrolysate off site to an appropriately permitted facility for disposal. He said a third product, condensate from the MPT off-gas treatment system, will also be sent to hydrolysate storage tanks, which will also contribute to the filling of those tanks. Brubaker noted the need to continue NEPA evaluations and to seek KDEP approval prior to any off-site shipment of hydrolysate. Additionally, he noted a transportation risk assessment would be completed prior to any shipment and community outreach would be held in Madison County and in the proposed receiving location. Brubaker then

reviewed the five criteria (filling of hydrolysate holding tanks, SCWO non-operational days, a high-level safety event in the SCWO Processing Building, schedule delay and cost) that could result in the need for off-site shipment of hydrolysate and said there will be further refinement of the cost criteria.

Williams and Hindman discussed the need to further increase the ability to communicate information from the PWG to CAC/CDCAB members. Williams noted the information dissemination will be improved moving forward. Williams and Thompson discussed the ability to ensure there is adequate money available for operations to avoid having cost be the reason for enacting off-site hydrolysate shipment and set aside to enact Plan B if the contingency plan is needed.

KDEP Permitting Update – Dale Burton, Blue Grass Army Depot (BGAD) Section, KDEP

Burton noted activities since the last CAC/CDCAB meeting, including the issuance of the Research, Development and Demonstration permit, known as Revision 6, for the main plant on March 28, as well as a Class 2 modification for changes to the Munitions Washout System and removal of aluminum from the hydrolysate. He said KDEP processed a Class 1 modification for changes regarding GB sampling prior to the operations last month and KDEP comments were issued April 9 to BGCAPP for the surrogate demonstration testing plan for the MPT and its off-gas treatment system. Burton noted KDEP reviewed the more comprehensive Pilot Test Demonstration Plan and issued comments to BGCAPP May 25. He also reported KDEP reviewed and commented on the inspection schedule May 25 and issued various Class 1 modifications for the EDT permit April 9 and June 6 and a couple of main plant items April 9. Burton then covered three new applications currently under review, including a storage facility, storage of uncontaminated rocket motors in BGAD igloos and the destruction of VX munitions in the main plant. He stated KDEP anticipates soon receiving from BGAD the Controlled Destruction Chamber (known as the Donovan Chamber) application to eliminate uncontaminated rocket motors by static firing. Burton noted the contract for the destruction of the uncontaminated rocket motors has not been determined, and the permit would allow BGAD to destroy the rocket motors if they receive a portion of the contract. He said KDEP is finalizing a draft permit for open burn/open detonation of conventional munitions, which is not related to chemical demilitarization. Finally, Burton reviewed some recent KDEP personnel changes.

Williams asked for more information on the inspection-schedule permit modification. Burton said the modifications give a detailed list of inspections throughout the process by KDEP and other involved parties in line with statutes and regulations. He noted the permittee must conduct periodic inspections, and KDEP's role is to do independent inspections and check records documenting the permittee's inspections.

Closing Remarks – Doug Hindman, Chair, CAC, and Reagan Taylor and Craig Williams, Co-Chairs, CDCAB

Hindman asked for input on the provided snacks and said the CAC was making an effort to save some money.

Williams thanked everyone for attending.

Next CAC and CDCAB Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 12, 2018, at 1:30 p.m. at the EKU Carl D. Perkins Building, Rooms A and B.

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